

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I mistakenly voted "no" on Rollcall Vote 523, the Shadeegg of Arizona amendment to H.R. 2641. I should have voted "aye."

U.N. WORLD REFUGEE DAY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor U.N. World Refugee Day. Some 40 million people worldwide are uprooted by violence and persecution.

It is likely that in the future we will see even more people on the run—as a growing number of push factors compound one another to create conditions for further forced displacement.

People do not just flee persecution and war but also injustice, exclusion, environmental pressures, competition for scarce resources and all the miserable human consequences of dysfunctional states. We need to rise together to advocate for the plight of refugees.

We need to raise global awareness to remedy the conditions for which people are forced to leave their homes and become refugees.

IN HONOR OF PINE-RICHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the faculty and staff of Pine-Richland Middle School in Gibsonia, Pennsylvania. Pine-Richland Middle School was recently given the extraordinary honor of being designated as a School to Watch by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform, a distinction bestowed upon only 34 middle schools nationwide this year.

In order to become recognized as a School to Watch, middle schools must meet rigorous criteria set forth by the National Forum. To comply with these standards, schools must not only promote academic excellence among their students, but also provide adolescents with an environment that is sensitive to and supportive of their particular developmental needs. Additionally, schools must ensure that their resources are used equitably to assist and challenge students at all levels of achievement.

By earning recognition as a School to Watch, Pine-Richland Middle School has demonstrated its commitment to providing the best possible education to every one of its students. I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize the talented faculty and staff who earned this award. Every day, they dedicate themselves to the task of producing enlightened students and virtuous citizens. I commend them for their work and wish them continued success.

MARSH ELEMENTARY STUDENTS CHOSEN AS THE WINNER OF THE 2007 TOSHIBA/NATIONAL SCI- ENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION EXPLORA VISION AWARDS

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to honor a group of students from Marsh Elementary School in Rockford, Illinois, for their selection as the winner of the 2007 Toshiba/National Science Teachers Association Explora Vision Awards.

Each year, students in grades K–12 around the Nation compete in the Explora Vision program, which is designed to encourage students to combine their imagination with their knowledge of science and technology to explore visions of the future. Teams of students select a technology, research how it works and why it was invented, and then project how that technology may change in the future. They must then identify what breakthroughs are required for their vision to become a reality and describe the positive and negative consequences of their technology on society.

I am honored to have these students in the district that I am privileged to represent. I support them wholeheartedly as they pursue different areas of technological research at such an early age. I hope that their experiences will kindle an interest in science and technology that could possibly lead to a career in these fields.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF BART DIRECTOR THOMAS E. MARGRO

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise with the support of my colleagues, Hon. NANCY PELOSI, Hon. ANNA G. ESHOO, Hon. MIKE HONDA, Hon. BARBARA LEE, Hon. TOM LANTOS, Hon. ZOE LOFGREN, Hon. JERRY MCNERNEY, Hon. GEORGE MILLER, Hon. PETE STARK, Hon. LYNN WOOLSEY of California, in the House of Representatives—to recognize

Thomas E. Margro who has served the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District as general manager since September 1996.

Mr. Margro is the longest serving general manager in the district's history and held the post of assistant general manager, transit system development from 1990 to 1995, after a distinguished career with the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority.

Mr. Margro guided the development, design, and construction of the \$2.7 billion BART extensions program, expanding the system in the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Mateo including extensions to Pittsburg/Bay Point, Dublin/Pleasanton, and also spearheaded the successful modernization of the district with a 10 year, \$1.2 billion system renovation program.

In addition, he lead the development of the \$1.5 billion San Francisco Airport, SFO, extension in partnership with the Bay Area congressional delegation, which created a state-of-the-art train to plane connection at SFO and also created an 9.8, 5-station extension through the Peninsula cities of Colma, South San Francisco, Bruno, Millbrae and Burlingame.

Mr. Margro also partnered with the Bay Area congressional delegation to highlight the security needs of transit systems, and advocated for additional Federal transit dollars and greater regional cooperation to ensure that BART riders would receive their fair share of Federal security dollars.

Along with the Bay Area congressional delegation, he successfully partnered to boost the amount of transit dollars returning to California as a part of the SAFETEA-LU authorization process—successfully getting significant increases in BART formula funding through that process.

Managing the district through difficult financial times, Mr. Margro ensured that BART maintained a stellar safety record, a 92 percent on-time performance rating and an 85 percent customer satisfaction rating all the while; the efforts culminated in BART being awarded the coveted title " #1 Transit System in America" in 2004 by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA).

The members of the San Francisco Bay area congressional delegation recognize the immeasurable contribution Mr. Margro has made to the bay area region and we wish him success and happiness in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK DENZINGER AND JOEL WHITE

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on Monday evening, June 18, 2007, the community of Floyd County, Indiana, experienced a tragic event that resulted in the loss of two lives. Two members of the Floyd County Sheriff's

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Department, Frank Denzinger and Joel White, were shot when they arrived on the scene at a home to which they had been called. Deputy Sheriff Denzinger did not survive the shooting, Deputy Sheriff White was seriously injured, and later that evening, police discovered that the teenage boy who shot them had also fatally shot himself. This small, southern Indiana community has not experienced a tragedy of this proportion in decades, and is still reeling from it. I would like to first of all commend the noble work, day in and day out, of the Floyd County Sheriff's Department and all of our local law enforcement in Indiana. I would like to offer my sincere condolences to Deputy Sheriff Denzinger's family and friends. Frank Denzinger, 32, of Lansleville, Indiana, leaves behind a loving wife, Tara, and young daughter, Avery Grace. Frank was known as not only a loyal peer to his fellow law enforcement agents, but also to his family. He was taken much too soon from his wife and daughter. I want to thank Deputy Sheriff Denzinger and his family for their service to our community, as well as remind all Hoosiers to pray for both the Denzinger and White families.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2641) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, I also want to state what my amendment does not do. It does not provide any funding for the Reliable Replacement Warhead (RRW) program or any new weapon development. It does not take specific funds from non-proliferation activities, activities which I support. And it does not, regardless of the misunderstanding or misstatement of others, in any way make it easier for terrorists to acquire nuclear materials. In fact, my amendment would actually restore funding cuts for security measures that keep our nuclear materials safe at our national laboratories.

I understand that in an amendment that moves this much money there can be great concern, and there should be great concern. Yet, it must be understood exactly what is and is not happening—and the entire purpose, the entire substance, of this amendment is meant to help protect the core missions of the labs. Ultimately, this will accelerate a diversification of their missions in order to better meet the national concerns and priorities that we will continue to face in the future.

PRAISING THE SUCCESS OF THE SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM IN ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, it is with great enthusiasm that I share with my colleagues an article prepared by Mr. Myron Yoder, the Social Studies Curriculum Coordinator for the Allentown School District in Allentown, Pennsylvania, regarding the School Violence Prevention Demonstration Program.

The School Violence Prevention Demonstration Program is administered by the Center for Civic Education through the U.S. Department of Education. The program explores how civic education can be used as a strategy to foster civic engagement, law-abiding behavior, the peaceful management of conflict, and the prevention of violence in schools. Currently, the program is being implemented at grades 4 through 12 in urban, suburban, rural, and Native American school districts at 24 sites in 19 States across the Nation. The article is below.

CIVIC EDUCATION TO BE CELEBRATED IN ASD SCHOOLS JUNE 5: A CALL TO THE ALLENTOWN COMMUNITY. JOIN US

(By Myron Yoder)

Good civics—practice and recognition—is a concern and part of the fabric of every healthy community. To a school, civics is a fundamental part of instruction; to a diverse society, it is an imperative to maintain and grow our civilized way of life. The Allentown School District has been involved in a federal grant administered through the Center for Civic Education called the School Violence Prevention Demonstration Program, or SVPDP, for short. This civics-based curricular program has become ASD's elementary civics component for social studies in grades K-5. The goal behind the program is essential to our society: If you build good civics practices with students in school communities, then you proactively deal with issues of student attitudes, behavior and, theoretically, head off school violence by more students. This year, the Allentown School District civics program is in over 400 classrooms and reaches over 8,000 students.

The many planned "culminating" activities at the end of students' studies this spring are deliberately performance-based not only to allow for creativity and self-expression by our students and teachers but also to provide a means to integrate learning and foster even stronger academic growth. Many parents notice students discussing issues at home with them as well as noticing a desire to become involved in issues our community faces. These culminating activities are occurring in many of our schools over the months of May and June. You can check with your neighborhood school for when these events are planned. We invite you to observe our students showcasing their learning this year.

Best of all, the SVPDP program helps ASD students become citizens of our community, our state and our nation. Further, we see a difference in many of our students, not only academically but also with attitudes and behaviors that we believe will proactively prevent school violence in many of our students.

The time has come to recognize, celebrate and thank our staff and students for this very committed effort on their part. On June

5, 2007 there will be a "Civic Celebration" lunch served by ASD's Child Nutrition Services department to celebrate SVPDP efforts in the schools and to recognize the work of our students and staff in this program.

Many schools will have culminating activities going on, community service activities, award ceremonies, school clean up, community awareness or simply taking a moment over lunch to say thank you to the staff and students for their efforts. Each school will be doing something different that day, but all will celebrate civic participation with the lunch.

Citizens of Allentown, here are some of the expressions of understanding and change that ASD children and their teachers are experiencing with this program:

"Because I was a bully, I had a little bit of friends. Most of them were bullies, too. The responsibility book helped me stop being a bully. And now I have friends cause I am not a bully. Bullying is not for me!"—Fourth grader, Jackson ES.

"I ask the children what they have learned through the stories and plays and they say: Be fair to others so that they will be fair to you; There are consequences for our actions; Share with other people; Don't be a bully; Be nice to your friends; Be helpful to other people; Obey the laws."—Lou Ann Hein, Teacher, 2nd Grade, Dodd ES.

"I just wanted to tell you how much I have enjoyed teaching SVPDP and how much my students enjoyed it and learned from it. It covers so many issues students need in order to be good citizens and addresses issues they often don't understand. It has always been difficult to fit social studies into first grade but the journal coordinated exactly with what I was teaching in reading and writing, so there was plenty of time for social studies!"—Elizabeth Harting, Teacher, 1st Grade, Cleveland ES.

Allentown School District has a clear and dedicated commitment to teaching the qualities and values important to our society. We ask parents and the Allentown Community to join us in educating for America's future by celebrating civics on June 5, 2007.

CONGRATULATING LANCE CORPORAL ROBERT DRAPER

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, LCpl Robert Draper.

Lance Corporal Draper recently returned from Haditha, Iraq, where he served a 7-month deployment. He was assigned to Company E of the Second Battalion, Third Marine Regiment of the United States Marine Corps.

The city of Haditha saw unprecedented improvements when Lance Corporal Draper's Company E served. Upon arrival, Haditha was considered one of the most dangerous regions in Iraq. By the end of Lance Corporal Draper's deployment, the police force was rapidly growing, attacks on Iraqi Police and Marine patrols were steadily decreasing, and relations with the Iraqi people were improving.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Lance Corporal Draper, whose selfless actions benefit all Americans. Our Nation owes Lance Corporal Draper and his fellow soldiers a great debt of gratitude for their service.

IN HONOR OF SPECIALIST VAL
JOHN BORM

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a sense of sadness and regret to honor the short life of Specialist Val John Borm, of Sidney, Nebraska. Val, an infantryman in B Company, 2nd Battalion with the 35th Infantry, was killed late last week when a roadside bomb exploded near his Humvee.

A 2005 graduate of Sidney High School, Val has been described as an enthusiastic soldier who enjoyed his service for our country. My heart goes out to his parents, Larry and Lolita, and the rest of the Sidney community as they come to terms with this loss.

As we head into the July 4th holiday season, let us remember Val and his comrades who have paid such a high price defending freedom. We owe them our very best.

HONORING MRS. SANDRA L. MERIN

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and achievements of Mrs. Sandra L. Merin, president of the Board of Directors of the District of Columbia Children's Advocacy Center, also known as Safe Shores. This week Mrs. Merin is being honored by the National Children's Alliance as its 2007 Volunteer of the Year for her extraordinary service and leadership on behalf of abused children in the Nation's Capital.

Established pursuant to the Children's Advocacy Center model created over two decades ago by our distinguished colleague Representative ROBERT "BUD" CRAMER of Alabama, Safe Shores is a nonprofit organization that each year helps over 800 children whose lives have been marred by physical abuse, sexual abuse or other violence. Safe Shores' mission is to ensure the safety, health and well-being of abused children in the District of Columbia by uniting the strengths of public, private and community partners.

Mrs. Merin has been a volunteer with Safe Shores for 6 years, during which time she has shown tremendous energy, persistence, and determination in being a voice for children who face abuse, neglect, and painful realities that no individual should ever know.

Mrs. Merin leads the volunteer board of directors, helping to guide the governance of the organization and the board's development and expansion; she has helped forge a relationship between a respected local university and Safe Shores; she has served on the organization's 10th Anniversary Event Committee.

In the true spirit of community service and philanthropy, Mrs. Merin does all her fine work for Safe Shores humbly and without seeking praise or reward. A devoted wife and mother, Sandra Merin exemplifies the spirit that made this country great and continues to sustain us.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mrs. Sandra Merin for her dedicated and invaluable support of Safe Shores

and its crucial efforts to reduce trauma and promote healing for the youngest and most vulnerable of Washington, DC's residents.

RETIREMENT OF MIAMI EAST
HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER FRED
WORTH

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Fred Worth, a History and Government teacher at Miami East High School in Miami County, Ohio, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to the youth of our Nation.

For the last 30 years, Fred has contributed his time and his talents to the betterment of so many young adults and for this I offer him my utmost congratulations and thanks. Whether it is coaching baseball, volunteering at St. Patrick's Church or teaching in the classroom, his students and players exhibit the best of our younger generations. I know many of Fred's former students and players have blossomed into wonderful adults and he's played a big part in shaping their character.

I'm proud to call Fred my friend and for that I express my most sincere gratitude. His leadership will be missed, but the footprint he leaves will inspire many to dream big, reach high and achieve great things.

I consider it an honor to represent Fred in Congress and I wish him and his wife Janet a long, happy and healthy retirement.

CONGRATULATING SERGEANT
JOHN HUNSBERGER

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, SGT John Hunsberger.

Sergeant Hunsberger recently returned from Haditha, Iraq, where he served a 7-month deployment. He was assigned to Company E of the Second Battalion, Third Marine Regiment of the United States Marine Corps.

The city of Haditha saw unprecedented improvements when Sergeant Hunsberger's Company E served. Upon arrival, Haditha was considered one of the most dangerous regions in Iraq. By the end of Sergeant Hunsberger's deployment, the police force was rapidly growing, attacks on Iraqi Police and Marine patrols were steadily decreasing, and relations with the Iraqi people were improving.

Sergeant Hunsberger earned the purple heart while in service in Haditha.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Sergeant Hunsberger, whose selfless actions benefit all Americans. Our Nation owes Sergeant Hunsberger and his fellow soldiers a great debt of gratitude for their service.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2641) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment. Unfortunately, my colleague from Texas has failed to closely examine the benefits the Appalachian Regional Commission has provided numerous economically distressed counties in the region since its establishment over 40 years ago.

Mr. Chairman, the ARC has enhanced the region's economic progress by improving living conditions, enhancing the employability of the workforce, and strengthening the region's basic infrastructure.

Simply put, the numbers speak for themselves. Since its creation, the ARC has reduced the number of severely distressed counties in the region by more than 65 percent, cut the poverty rate from 31 percent to 15 percent, and created 1.6 million jobs.

Mr. Chairman, my Upstate New York district has been plagued with struggling local economies for quite some time. Population exodus, significant job losses in the manufacturing sector and slow economic development have all contributed to the downturn in economic prosperity in the region.

These communities are in dire need of exposure to new innovative technologies—such as alternative energy projects—and attracting private investment to spur economic activity and improve their quality of life. The ARC helps our communities do just that. The ARC provides the framework and the guidance for these communities to begin to move towards sustainable economic growth.

Mr. Chairman, six counties in my Upstate New York district have experienced success as members of the ARC. The Village of Sherburne, NY in Chenango County is a great example of how small ARC grants are extremely helpful in leveraging additional funds from State, local, and private sources for economic development initiatives that create jobs. A \$200,000 grant from the ARC for the enhancement of aging water infrastructure in Sherburne—a problem that is plaguing many States in the Northeast—was able to leverage close to \$4 million in State and local community investment.

Mr. Chairman, for each one dollar of ARC funding invested, it leverages \$3.14 in other public funding and \$11.55 in private investment. Now that sounds like a responsible and wise investment of taxpayer dollars.

It would be unwise and irresponsible to deny the people in 13 States in the region the funds to help them achieve socioeconomic parity with the Nation. I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to oppose the amendment to zero-out funding for the ARC. Mr. Chairman, I also strongly urge my colleagues to support my freshman colleague from Ohio's

amendment to fully restore the President's FY08 budget request of \$65 million for the ARC in this bill.

THE TOWN OF JANE LEW'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the residents of Lewis County, West Virginia, in recognizing the town of Jane Lew on its 100th birthday.

Situated in north central West Virginia, Jane Lew traces its origins back to 1773. The small community grew slowly over the years before being issued a charter of incorporation by the State Legislature in 1907.

Today, at 100 years young, Jane Lew continues as a thriving small town. Known for being a friendly tight-knit community, the town is home to 40 businesses, a thriving senior center and one of the region's largest Labor Day craft shows.

I congratulate the residents of Jane Lew and look forward to many more birthday celebrations in the future.

RECOGNIZING DALLAS PEACE CENTER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a milestone that was achieved by the oldest and largest peace and justice organization in north Texas. This year the Dallas Peace Center will celebrate its 25th anniversary.

The Dallas Peace Center is based on a vision of reconciliation to promote education, dialogue, and action for peace and justice. Along with other contributions, the Dallas Peace Center hosts forums and conferences advocating for peace in America and the world. Moreover, the center hosts community service initiatives that help promote justice in the north Texas area. The heart of the Dallas Peace Center reaches well beyond its members through its dedication and commitment to the community.

The Dallas Peace Center also meets with other organizations that promote peace including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Amnesty International. The center hosts free workshops and book club meetings so that members and non-members can learn about pertinent subject areas.

This year, the Dallas Peace Center is supporting the upcoming 3rd Women's International Peace Conference, which will bring women leaders from across the world to Dallas to engage in dialogue leading to peace.

On behalf of the 30th Congressional District of Texas, I am elated to congratulate such an invaluable asset to the Dallas community on its 25th anniversary. I thank the members of this center on their dedicated service to Dallas and the great State of Texas and I wish them many more years of prosperity.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CHIEF YEOMAN MICHAEL "JOHN" FOY DAY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a native Houstonian, who has spent the last 25 years of his life serving our country in the United States Navy.

After graduating from Lubbock Christian University where he was actively involved in the Army ROTC Program, Chief Day entered the Navy on October 16, 1983, and for the next 5 years was involved in 3 different SEAL teams.

While accomplishing numerous tasks with the SEALs, Chief Day committed much of his time to his community. He served as President of the Gateway Housing Council, Director of the Neighborhood Watch Program, and was a member of the San Diego School Board.

After being transferred to Europe in 1989, Chief Day continued achieving duties with the Personnel Support Detachment and many community organizations. Some of those organizations include: Leader of the Scottish Boy Scouts, member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and was recipient of the 1995 Outstanding United Services Organization (USO) Award of Europe.

In June 1996, Chief Day was reassigned to Ingleside, Texas, and continued participating in community involvement. During the completion of his assignment with the Afloat Training Group (ATG) and Mine Warfare Training Center, Chief Day became Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars chapter in Ingleside. During his time as commander he received the highest award in the Department of Texas. The J.T. Rutherford honor is awarded to the number one ranked volunteer member in Texas.

In June 1998, Chief Day was relocated to the Middle East and honorably carried out various missions with the Navy and Marine Corps TAFT unit, under the Joint Military Order of the Royal Saudi Navy and Marine Corps forces. After being selected as the number one sailor in Europe and promoted to his current rank of Chief Petty Officer, Chief Day volunteered and deployed to Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Throughout his military career Chief Day earned 42 awards, was selected 5 times as sailor of the quarter, and 3 times as Sailor of the Year.

Chief Day is a loving father, husband, and a prime example of a leader who promotes citizenship by participation. As Chief Day's military career comes to a close, I am proud to stand before you and honor a man who has represented his community, state, and country with dignity.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT MICHAEL A. BECHERT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness and deep respect that I wish to

commend Army SSG Michael A. Bechert for his bravery and his willingness to fight for his country. Staff Sergeant Bechert was assigned to C Company, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division in Schweinfurt, Germany. Tragically, Staff Sergeant Bechert passed away on June 14, 2007, due to injuries sustained on May 30, 2007, when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device in Baghdad, Iraq. His sacrifice for his country will forever be remembered by a community that has been devastated by the loss of one of its own.

Staff Sergeant Bechert felt tremendous pride for his country, and it will never be forgotten that he was willing to endanger his own life to protect the lives of his fellow citizens. His courage and heroism will always be remembered, and his sacrifice will forever live in the hearts and minds of those for whom he battled. Staff Sergeant Bechert enlisted in the United States Army, fully aware that danger could arise in any situation. He accepted this so that the freedoms and values he treasured could be enjoyed by men, women, and children around the world.

For his efforts, Staff Sergeant Bechert was awarded several military medals and honors, including: the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Army Commendation Medal for heroism, as well as a Purple Heart for previous injuries sustained in battle. In addition, he will be posthumously awarded an additional Purple Heart and a Bronze Star medal.

Although he loved his unit and his country, Michael treasured his family above all else. He is survived by his wife, Daniela, and his son, Branden Andrew, as well as many other friends and family members whose lives he has touched. My condolences go out to all who knew and loved Michael. His eagerness to serve and his willingness to sacrifice himself is worthy of the highest admiration.

Madam Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring a fallen hero, United States Army SSG Michael Bechert. He will forever remain a hero in the eyes of his family, his community, and his country. Let us never forget the sacrifice he made to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2641) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Ms. CASTOR. Mr. Chairman, the Energy and Water Appropriations bill charts an important new direction for improved public health and a cleaner environment throughout America. The bill also makes important new investments in renewable energy as we must reduce our dependence on foreign oil and cut

greenhouse gas emissions. We must rapidly expand the production of clean, alternative fuels and increase energy efficiency. Our country has lost momentum due to the Bush-Cheney White House's inaction on global warming and energy independence. The new Congress will change course today.

A healthy and clean environment and renewable energy solutions are vital to the State of Florida and the Tampa Bay area. In my Tampa Bay area district, we are working to increase energy efficiency through organizations like the Clean Energy Research Center at the University of South Florida. My recent Tampa energy forum "Turning Green for the Red, White and Blue" drew great community interest. Our neighbors now are focusing on commonsense conservation initiatives. Nevertheless, leadership at the Federal level is vital.

The Energy and Water Appropriations bill invests \$3 billion in global climate change science and in renewable energy technologies that both reduce greenhouse gases and help our Nation meet its energy needs. Additionally, this bill will provide a 50 percent increase into research on energy efficiency and renewable energy, including solar, biofuels, hydropower, and geothermal, as well as new vehicle technology and energy efficient buildings and homes. Solar energy holds great promise for Floridians and I strongly support the new investment of \$200 million for research, development and demonstration projects to make solar energy more affordable.

On the first day of the new Congress, the House passed legislation to repeal \$14 billion in taxpayer subsidies given to Big Oil companies that are earning record profits while we pay record profits at the pump. Those monies now will be channeled into clean alternative energy technologies and energy efficiency. Doing so enhances our national security as our country will lessen its foreign entanglements with questionable, petrocentric nations.

Climate change is potentially the greatest threat to our national security and prosperity. Energy independence is vital to our future. I urge the Congress to act swiftly for the sake of my community and all Americans.

INTRODUCING THE FAIR BALANCE PRESCRIPTION DRUG ADVERTISING ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Fair Balance Prescription Drug Advertisement Act. This bill would place long overdue restrictions on direct-to-consumer, DTC, prescription drug advertisements. All too often, these poorly regulated ads provide incomplete and misleading information about new pills, pushing unnecessary prescriptions and promoting drugs before doctors and scientists have time to learn enough about their dangers.

Consumers, at whom these ads are targeted, don't realize that FDA approves drugs without confirming that they are safe for every treatment circumstance. As a result, many new drugs are widely marketed before the FDA discovers serious side effects and takes corrective action. Examples include drugs for

conditions as common as arthritis and high blood sugar.

As scientists have discovered, "DTCA (direct to consumer advertising) is a successful method of generating prescriptions." Since ad restrictions were gutted in the U.S., drug advertising has grown at a startling rate, to a whopping \$4.2 billion in 2005. No surprise, drug costs have grown dramatically as well, from 78 billion in 1997 to more than 2 trillion in 2005. Pharmaceutical companies spend billions of dollars trying to convince consumers their drugs will fix everything from bad sex lives to bad moods. These ads lead consumers to demand drugs that may not be medically necessary or appropriate for their condition.

In many instances, DTC ads promote drugs that are later found to harm patients. In 2003, for example, Johnson & Johnson ran ads where Procrit seemed to rescue a cancer victim from disabling lethargy. Then new research came out showing cancer patients did no better on Procrit. In fact, some cancer patients actually did worse.

The FDA has now given Procrit a black box warning cautioning against the use of this drug in certain circumstances. The agency has also warned Johnson & Johnson and Amgen that there is no evidence to support marketing efforts suggesting the drug reduces fatigue for patients in chemotherapy.

By increasing demand for pricey new drugs when cheaper ones will do, DTC advertising also drives up the costs of prescriptions. Sadly when patients find they can't afford these expensive drugs, they skip doses or don't even start the treatment. Unbalanced ads for expensive pills therefore contribute to both higher costs and to poor control of chronic disease.

The Fair Balance Prescription Drug Advertisement Act will empower the FDA to determine whether pharmaceutical companies present information about their products in a fair manner, balancing risks and benefits. Any advertisements found to violate this standard would be denied currently allowed business expense tax deductions for advertising costs.

Based on recommendations from the Institute of Medicine, the bill goes one step further and eliminates the business exemption for all new medications for the first 2 years that they are in the marketplace. This provision would provide doctors and scientists the opportunity to learn more about drugs' effects on a general population before consumers are bombarded with marketing pitches. Had this regulation been in effect when Procrit was introduced, many people would be better off today.

There are freedom of speech concerns with directly prohibiting advertising, accurate or not. This legislation therefore takes a different approach, hitting drug companies where it hurts them most, their bottom lines. While companies could continue running misleading ads, they would have to pay significantly more to do so. This will discourage drug companies from engaging in dishonest marketing practices.

The Fair Balance Prescription Drug Advertisement Act sets forth new guidelines that will help the pharmaceutical industry appropriately educate the public, enabling consumers to make informed decisions based on a fair and balanced presentation of risks and benefits. Today's DTC ads simply don't meet that standard. Given rapidly rising health care and

prescription drug costs, we need to take every step we can to make prescription drugs safer and more affordable. We have to make sure advertisements aid consumers in making informed decisions, rather than simply increasing demand for the newest drugs.

Since the pharmaceutical industry already argues that their ads inform consumers, they should have nothing to fear from this bill. We should pass this bill immediately and take a concrete step to improve the safety and efficacy of prescription drugs for America's consumers. I urge all my colleagues to join me in support of the Fair Balance Prescription Drug Advertisement Act.

TRIBUTE TO THELMA BERTIE

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Thelma Bertie of the Bronx, NY, and to recognize her on the celebration of her 90th birthday. Ms. Bertie is an 87-year resident of New York and has exhibited steadfast commitment to American ideals by faithfully voting in every local and national election since reaching voting age. I commend her on this great dedication to her civic duty and I wish her a joyous day with many more happy moments ahead beside her loved ones.

Ms. Bertie has asserted herself as an active and conscientious citizen and has earned appreciation for her contributions to the community. Her life and accomplishments are true inspirations to the lives of all those she touches and I am honored that my district is called home by such an outstanding citizen. Ms. Bertie truly understands the value of being not only a New Yorker but an American as well, and the entire Bronx community is privileged to count her among its residents.

Madam Speaker, I join to congratulate Ms. Bertie on this birthday milestone and I wish her good health and fortune in the future.

CONGRATULATING LANCE CORPORAL WILLIAM BURKE JR.

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDI

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. TANCREDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, LCpl William Burke Jr.

Lance Corporal Burke recently returned from Haditha, Iraq, where he served a 7-month deployment. He was assigned to Company E of the Second Battalion, Third Marine Regiment of the United States Marine Corps.

The city of Haditha saw unprecedented improvements when Lance Corporal Burke's Company E served. Upon arrival, Haditha was considered one of the most dangerous regions in Iraq. By the end of Lance Corporal Burke's deployment, the police force was rapidly growing, attacks on Iraqi Police and Marine patrols were steadily decreasing, and relations with the Iraqi people were improving.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Lance Corporal Burke, whose selfless actions benefit all Americans. Our Nation

owes Lance Corporal Burke and his fellow soldiers a great debt of gratitude for their service.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2641) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2641, the Energy and Water and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2008. I would like to thank Chairman VISCLOSKEY and the Energy and Water Subcommittee for drafting a bill that clearly defines what our Nation's priorities should be in promoting and developing sustainable energy sources as well as taking a firm approach to dealing with our Nation's nuclear weapons complex.

This Energy and Water Appropriations bill is making two very important statements. The first relates to our Nation's energy path and climate change. I believe this bill starts to direct us to where we should be—which is on a sustainable energy course. By increasing the investment we are making to sustainable energy sources, we are making a commitment to developing an energy plan that promotes renewable energy, promotes efficiency and promotes conservation.

Last year, I criticized the Energy and Water bill for continuing the status quo and for not putting us on a path for a sustainable energy future. Today, the bill we are considering is vastly different. We have increased by 52 percent over the President's budget for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. This funding is used for energy efficiency programs such as technologies to make buildings more efficient and programs like EnergyStar. This bill also provides significant funding for alternative energy sources such as biomass, solar, and hydropower. These are the technologies of the near future and we must make the investment now.

Equally important is the public policy statement that this bill makes about nuclear nonproliferation and how we as a Nation bring rationality to our own nuclear weapons complex. Last year Congress approved a nuclear cooperation agreement with India. That deal, I believe, created a more dangerous and unstable world. We spoke at great length about the details of this cooperative agreement. We spoke at great length about how good a friend India is to us. We talked about the so-called reality of an imperfect ability to control the militarization of nuclear reactions. I said last year during that debate, that if we really believe that nuclear proliferation and loose nukes are the greatest threat to world peace and security, as I do, then we should be holding on to every tool we can find to prevent that threat.

That is why I am pleased that this bill sends a clear message about how we view our nu-

clear weapons complex. I believe that instead of wasting billions of additional dollars on a nuclear weapons program we don't need and that would only undermine our global nonproliferation efforts, our country should be dismantling its excess nuclear weapons and working to get other nuclear powers to join us in the effort to create a world free of nuclear weapons. Equally important, our country should be expanding its effort to secure loose or inadequately safeguarded nuclear materials in the former Soviet states. Securing these materials is our best insurance policy against terrorists getting their hands on such material and using it against us or our allies. For these reasons, I am pleased that the Energy and Water bill cuts the Department of Energy's portion of the RRW program. We must set a global example, and this is a start on moving us towards global nonproliferation.

Also, by way of my background as a scientist and researcher at the Princeton Plasma Physics Lab, I understand how essential it is to fully invest in programs like the Fusion Energy Sciences Program. I applaud the \$427.9 million investment in this program. Never has a national commitment to fusion energy research been more timely or important to our Nation's energy future than it is right now. Fusion energy is the power of the sun and the stars, and holds the promise to become an economical, safe and clean domestic energy source. Fusion is an energy source that has the potential to increase our national energy security, while also decreasing overall world carbon dioxide emissions. I am glad to see that the Committee has decided to honor our Nation's commitment to ITER, which is a seven nation fusion program being developed currently in Cadarache, France, by allocating \$160 million in funding. The remaining \$267.9 million will allow the United States to be competitive in the development and deployment of fusion energy and to train and retrain the next generation of young fusion researchers who will be expected to work on ITER and in the field of fusion energy research beyond ITER.

This is a good start for an energy appropriations bill. I thank the Chairman for his cooperation and leadership on this bill and I urge my colleagues to support it.

CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972 AND RECOGNIZING THE NEED TO CONTINUE PURSUING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

SPEECH OF

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2007

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, this week, we celebrate the 35th anniversary of the signing of title IX into law. Title IX was enacted on June 23, 1972, and it marked a major milestone for American women.

Title IX is a deceptively simple piece of legislation, requiring that "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any

education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." Who knew that one unpretentious sentence could accomplish so much? But title IX has provided the framework for an America that finally guaranteed a truly equal education for men and women.

The positive effects of this legislation are evident. Women now have the opportunity to participate in any sport they desire. Before title IX, two-time Olympic gold medalist Donna de Varona was effectively forced to retire from amateur swimming at the age of 17 because no American colleges were offering women scholarships in swimming or most other competitive sports. But today, just a generation later, NCAA women's sports and professional female sports leagues such as the WNBA are thriving and giving women everywhere chances to be superstars that they've never had before.

But I think the most telling effect of title IX is the fact that today, more women than men are attending college. Equal education for women was rare before 1972, when many law and medical schools allowed a maximum of 15 women in per year, and when women were often shut out of classes such as criminal justice and auto mechanics. Today, well over half of all undergraduate college students are women—and women outnumber men in graduate school enrollment, including high-paying, high-powered professional programs like law.

Title IX was all about opportunities. Title IX gave women new chances that they had never had before, and today, it is easy to see that women around the country are taking full advantage of them. While you might be able to name only a few famous women making news at the turn of the 20th century, it wouldn't take you more than a minute to name dozens—maybe even hundreds—of female news makers at the turn of the 21st century. It's amazing how many outstanding women have carved out careers in journalism, science, law, politics, sports, and the arts—and disheartening to imagine the amazing women of the past who were never given the chance. I am excited to see what today's little girls will do with the opportunities title IX will provide to them.

CALLING ON UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL TO CHARGE IRANIAN PRESIDENT WITH CERTAIN VIOLATIONS BECAUSE OF HIS CALLS FOR DESTRUCTION OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this resolution honoring Title IX and the woman who played a key role in its passage, Congresswoman Patsy Mink. I was privileged to serve with Patsy on the Education and Labor Committee from the time I started serving in 1993. She took me under her wing and was a true mentor to me, inspiring me with her example.

There has been no stronger voice in Congress for girls, women, and minorities than Patsy's. Her work here has touched countless women's lives. Women today don't have to face the barriers and discrimination that Patsy faced when applying to graduate school.

Her firsthand experience with gender discrimination—being denied admission to medical school as a promising young science student—did not discourage her or break her spirit, but sparked her desire for change.

Most importantly, when she overcame gender and racial barriers to climb the ladder of success, she did not kick that ladder aside for other women; instead, she led the way and supported their upward rise, most importantly, paving the way with legislation such as Title IX. She never gave up the struggle to give every child access to a quality education.

Her memory continues to be an inspiration for me on the Education and Labor committee and in the legislation that I introduce and co-sponsor. This Congress, I will again introduce legislation to start a Patsy Mink fellowship program to help more women and minorities earn graduate degrees and become college professors.

A lot more work remains to be done to give women more educational opportunities: women are still underrepresented in math, science, and engineering-related fields.

Thanks in large part to Patsy's work, a majority of people agree that women should be allowed to apply to college and graduate programs without facing discriminatory admissions policies, sexual harassment in schools when they do get in, or even a lack of athletic opportunities. We are well served by Patsy's legacy, a true guiding star.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLEBURNE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to the citizens of

Cleburne County, Alabama, who will soon celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Cleburne County Courthouse.

The cornerstone of this historic structure was laid on July 4, 1907, following a referendum to decide the final location of the courthouse. The location chosen was Heflin, Alabama. Over the past century, the Cleburne County Courthouse has housed numerous departments serving the people of Cleburne County, including the office of the judge of probate, veterans affairs office, the superintendent of education, and the county commission.

On June 30, 2007, the citizens of Cleburne County will gather to commemorate this important milestone. At that time local leaders are expected to open the cornerstone, and local citizens will hear presentations by community leaders and enjoy a community-wide gathering.

I would like to congratulate the people of Cleburne County for reaching this important milestone in their county's history, and join the community in wishing another prosperous 100 years for this important landmark.

RECOGNIZING THE MACARTHUR FOUNDATION AND THE LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION OF CHICAGO

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the MacArthur Foundation and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) of Chicago for their efforts to support communities throughout the city of Chicago. Recently, the MacArthur Foundation announced it will invest \$26 million to support the New Communities Program. The New Communities Program is a project of Local Ini-

tiatives Support Corporation of Chicago that seeks to help lower income neighborhoods grapple with safety, employment, health care, affordable housing and development.

Chicago is a city of neighborhoods, which is why the MacArthur Foundation's most recent donation is so exciting. The Foundation's \$26 million contribution will invest in 16 different Chicago neighborhoods—Auburn Gresham, Chicago Lawn, Douglas, North Kenwood-Oakland, Grand Boulevard, East Garfield Park, Englewood, Humboldt Park, Little Village, Logan Square, North Lawndale, Pilsen, South Chicago, Washington Park, West Haven and Woodlawn.

Since 2002 the MacArthur Foundation has donated over \$21 million annually to the New Communities Program, providing seed money that has blossomed into over \$255 million in private investment. The new investment in our communities is expected to multiply into another \$500 million in private funds over the next 5 years, which will provide thousands of new jobs and opportunities to residents of some of Chicago's overlooked neighborhoods.

The Local Initiatives Support Corporation was created in 1979. Since then, LISC has provided 215,000 units of affordable housing, created funding for schools and day care for over 40,000 children annually, and added parks and playing fields to accommodate 150,000 people. In Chicago alone, LISC has dedicated more than \$100 million into housing and economic development since 1980, and they remain committed to their vision of building whole communities.

Madam Speaker, the New Communities Program has served as a model to other community development organizations across the country and around the globe, and thanks in part to the Local Initiatives Support Corporation of Chicago and the MacArthur Foundation, our neighborhoods will continue to be some of the best in the world.